

## 2017-K692

Assembly Resolution No. 692

BY: M. of A. Titone

MEMORIALIZING Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim September 2017, as Alopecia Areata Awareness Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, Alopecia Areata is an autoimmune skin disease resulting in the loss of hair on the scalp and elsewhere on the body; and

WHEREAS, With Alopecia Areata, the affected hair follicles are mistakenly attacked by a person's immune system, resulting in the loss of hair; and

WHEREAS, Alopecia Areata is a common but very challenging and capricious disease affecting approximately two percent of the American population, amounting to more than 4.7 million people in the United States; and

WHEREAS, With appropriate treatment, a large percentage of patients will have all of their hair back within one year, and many will have it sooner; and

WHEREAS, Approximately five percent of children with Alopecia Areata will go on to develop Alopecia Totalis, the loss of all the hair on the scalp, and some children will develop Alopecia Universalis, the complete loss of body hair; and

WHEREAS, There is no cure for Alopecia Areata and unfortunately since there is little understanding of the disease, there are no FDA approved drugs or treatments specifically designed to address Alopecia Areata; and

WHEREAS, Although not life-threatening, Alopecia Areata is most certainly life-altering, and its sudden onset, recurrent episodes, and unpredictable course have a serious effect on a person's life and functional status at work, school, and everyday life; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is aware of the impact that Alopecia Areata can have on people living with the disorder, and recognizes the need for enhanced public awareness, as well as supports the goals and ideals of Alopecia Areata Awareness Month, as designated by the National Alopecia Areata Foundation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim September 2017, as Alopecia Areata Awareness Month in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York.